

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method performed by a device ~~one or more devices~~, the method comprising:
 - receiving, by the device, a list of links;
 - identifying, by the device, for at least one of the links, a source with which the at least one link is associated; and
 - ranking, by the device, the list of links based at least in part on a quality of the identified source, the ranking including:
 - retrieving, by the device, a source rank value for each identified source, the source rank value being based at least in part on one or more of: a number of articles produced by the identified source during a first time period, an average length of an article produced by the identified source, an amount of coverage that the identified source produces in a second time period, a breaking news score, network traffic to the identified source, a human opinion of the identified source, circulation statistics of the identified source, a size of a staff associated with the identified source, a number of bureaus associated with the identified source, a number of original named entities in a group of articles associated with the identified source, a breadth of coverage by the identified source, a number of different countries from which traffic to the identified source originates, or a writing style used by the identified source.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~where~~ ~~wherein~~ the identifying a source includes:

identifying, by the device, the source based at least in part on a uniform resource locator (URL) associated with the link.
3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~where~~ ~~wherein~~ at least some of the identified sources are news sources.
4. (canceled)
5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~where~~ ~~wherein~~ the list of links is a ranked list of links, and

where ~~wherein~~ the ranking includes:

adjusting, by the device, the ranked list of links based at least in part on a quality of the identified sources.
6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~where~~ ~~wherein~~ the links include links to on-line news articles.
7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

determining, by the device, the list of links based at least in part on one or more of a search query, a topic, a list of one or more keywords, a geographical area, or a set of documents.

8. (currently amended) A computer device system for adjusting a ranking of search results, comprising:

means for receiving a list of objects;

means for identifying, for one or more objects in the list, a source to which each object in the one or more objects is associated;

means for ranking the list of objects based at least in part on the sources with which the one or more objects are associated, the means for ranking includes:

means for retrieving a source rank value for each identified source, the source rank value being based at least in part on one or more of: a number of articles produced by the identified source during a first time period, an average length of an article produced by the identified source, an amount of coverage that the identified source produces in a second time period, a breaking news score, network traffic to the identified source, a human opinion of the identified source, circulation statistics of the identified source, a size of a staff associated with the identified source, a number of bureaus associated with the identified source, a number of original named entities in a group of articles associated with the identified source, a breadth of coverage by the identified source, a number of different countries from which traffic to the identified source originates, or a writing style used by the identified source; and

means for providing the ranked list of objects to a client.

9. (currently amended) A server comprising:

a memory ~~configured~~ to store quality indicators for a plurality of sources;
and

a processor ~~configured~~ to:
receive a list of objects,
identify a source with which an object in the list of objects is
associated, and
rank the object in the list of objects based at least in part on the
quality indicator associated with the source with which the object is associated, the
quality indicator being based at least in part on one or more of a number of articles
produced by the source during a first time period, an average length of an article
produced by the source, an amount of coverage that the source produces in a second time
period, a breaking news score, network traffic to the source, a human opinion of the
source, circulation statistics of the source, a size of a staff associated with the source, a
number of bureaus associated with the source, a number of original named entities in a
group of articles associated with the source, a breadth of coverage by the source, a
number of different countries from which traffic to the source originates, or a writing
style used by the source.

10. (previously presented) A computer-readable memory device containing
instructions for controlling at least one processor to perform a method for ranking a list of
objects retrieved in response to a search query, the method comprising:

identifying a source with which an object in the list of objects is
associated; and

ranking the object in the list of objects based at least in part on a quality indicator associated with the source with which the object is associated, the quality indicator being based at least in part on one or more of a number of articles produced by the source during a first time period, an average length of an article produced by the source, an amount of coverage that the source produces in a second time period, a breaking news score, network traffic to the source, a human opinion of the source, circulation statistics of the source, a size of a staff associated with the source, a number of bureaus associated with the source, a number of original named entities in a group of articles associated with the source, a breadth of coverage by the source, a number of different countries from which traffic to the source originates, or a writing style used by the source.

11. (currently amended) A method ~~performed by one or more devices, the method~~ comprising:

determining, by a processor, one or more metric values for a news source based at least in part on at least one of a number of articles produced by the news source during a first time period, an average length of an article produced by the news source, an amount of coverage that the news source produces in a second time period, a breaking news score, an amount of network traffic to the news source, a human opinion of the news source, circulation statistics of the news source, a size of a staff associated with the news source, a number of bureaus associated with the news source, a number of original named entities in a group of articles associated with the news source, a breadth of

coverage by the news source, a number of different countries from which network traffic to the news source originates, or a writing style used by the news source; [[and]]

generating, by the processor, a quality value for the news source based at least in part on the determined one or more metric values; and

using, by the processor, the quality value to rank an object associated with the news source.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 where ~~wherein~~ the determining includes:

determining, by the processor, a plurality of metric values for the news source.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 12 where ~~wherein~~ the generating includes:

multiplying, by the processor, each metric value in the plurality of metric values by a factor to create a plurality of adjusted metric values, and

adding, by the processor, the plurality of adjusted metric values to obtain the quality value.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 13 where ~~wherein~~ the plurality of metric values includes a predetermined number of highest metric values for the news source.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 12 ~~where~~ ~~wherein~~ the generating includes:

normalizing, by the processor, each metric value in the plurality of metric values, and

adding, by the processor, the plurality of normalized metric values to obtain the quality value.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 15 ~~where~~ ~~wherein~~ the plurality of metric values includes a predetermined number of highest metric values for the news source.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 12 ~~where~~ ~~wherein~~ the generating includes:

adding, by the processor, the plurality of metric values for the news source to produce a total value,

obtaining, by the processor, the quality value by dividing the total value by a quantity of metric values in the plurality of metric values.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 17 ~~where~~ ~~wherein~~ the plurality of metric values includes a predetermined number of highest metric values for the news source.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 12 where ~~wherein~~ the generating includes:
- determining, by the processor, for each metric value in the plurality of metric values, a percentile score relative to a highest value for that metric,
- adding, by the processor, the percentile scores to obtain the quality value.
20. (currently amended) The method of claim 19 where ~~wherein~~ the plurality of metric values includes a predetermined number of highest metric values for the news source.
21. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
- repeating, by the processor, the determining and generating for a plurality of other sources, at least one of the plurality of other sources including a different news source; and
- storing, by the processor, the quality values for the news source and the plurality of other sources.
22. (canceled)
23. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 where ~~wherein~~ the determining includes:
- determining, by the processor, an importance metric value representing the amount of coverage that the news source produces in a second time period, and

where ~~wherein~~ the determining an importance metric includes:

determining, by the processor, for each article produced by the news source during the second time period, a number of other non-duplicate articles on a same subject produced by other news sources to produce an importance value for the article, and

adding, by the processor, the importance values to obtain the importance metric value.

24. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 where ~~wherein~~ the determining includes:

determining, by the processor, a breaking news metric value representing the breaking news score, and

where ~~wherein~~ the determining a breaking news metric value includes:

identifying, by the processor, for at least one article produced by the news source, a first time value at which the at least one article was published by the news source,

identifying, by the processor, a second time value that an initial article published on a same subject as the at least one article,

subtracting, by the processor, the second time value from the first time value to determine a difference time value,

comparing, by the processor, the difference time value to a threshold value, and

assigning, by the processor, a value to the breaking news metric value based at least in part on the comparing.

25. (currently amended) The method of claim 24 ~~where wherein~~ the determining a breaking news metric value further includes:

identifying, by the processor, a group of articles from other news sources that are on a same subject as the at least one article,

multiplying, by the processor, the value by a quantity proportional to a size of the group of articles from the other news sources prior to assigning the value to the breaking news metric value.

26. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 ~~where wherein~~ in determining the one or more metric values, non-duplicate articles are weighted differently than duplicate articles.

27. (currently amended) A server comprising:

a memory; and

a processor ~~configured~~ to:

determine one or more metric values for a news source based at least in part on at least one of: a number of articles produced by the news source during a first time period, an average length of an article produced by the news source, an amount of coverage that the news source produces in a second time period, a breaking news score, an amount of network traffic to the news source, a human opinion of the news

source, circulation statistics of the news source, a size of a staff associated with the news source, a number of bureaus associated with the news source, a number of original named entities in a group of articles associated with the news source, a breadth of coverage by the news source, a number of different countries from which network traffic to the news source originates, or a writing style used by the news source,

determine a quality value for the news source based at least in part on the determined one or more metric values, and

store the quality value in the memory.

28. (currently amended) A computer-readable memory device containing instructions for controlling at least one processor to perform a method for determining a quality of sources, the method comprising:

determining, for each source of a plurality of sources, one or more metric values based at least in part on at least one of a number of articles produced by the source during a first time period, an average length of an article produced by the source, an amount of coverage that the source produces in a second time period, a breaking news score, an amount of network traffic to the source, a human opinion of the source, circulation statistics of the source, a size of a staff associated with the source, a number of bureaus associated with the source, a number of original named entities in a group of articles associated with the source, a breadth of coverage by the source, a number of different countries from which network traffic to the source originates, or a writing style used by the source; [[and]]

generating a quality value for each source of the plurality of sources based at least in part on the determined one or more metric values for the source; and
storing the generated quality value for each source of the plurality of
sources.

29. (currently amended) A method ~~performed by one or more devices~~, the method comprising:

receiving, by a device, a plurality of objects;

identifying, by the device, a source with which an object in the plurality of objects is associated;

determining, by the device, a quality of the identified source, the determining a quality includes:

determining, by the device, one or more metric values based at least in part on at least one of: a number of articles produced by the source during a first time period, an average length of an article produced by the source, an amount of coverage that the source produces in a second time period, a breaking news score, an amount of network traffic to the source, a human opinion of the source, circulation statistics of the source, a size of a staff associated with the source, a number of bureaus associated with the source, a number of original named entities in a group of articles associated with the source, a breadth of coverage by the source, a number of different countries from which network traffic to the source originates, or a writing style used by the source, and

generating, by the device, a quality for each of the identified sources based at least in part on the determined one or more metric values for the source; and

ranking, by the device, the object of the plurality of objects based at least in part on the determined quality of the source with which the object is associated.

30. (canceled)

31. (currently amended) The method of claim 29 where ~~wherein~~ the plurality of objects includes on-line news articles.

32. (currently amended) The computer system of claim 8 where ~~wherein~~ the objects include links to on-line news articles.

33. (currently amended) The server of claim 9 where ~~wherein~~ the objects include links to on-line news articles.

34. (currently amended) A computer-implemented method comprising:
receiving, by a processor, a search query;
generating, by the processor, a ranked list of on-line news articles based on the search query;
identifying, by the processor, a news source for at least one on-line news article of the ranked list of on-line news articles;

determining, by the processor, based on the identified news source, whether a source rank exists for the at least one on-line news article; and

adjusting, by the processor, a ranking of the at least one on-line news article if the source rank exists for the at least one on-line news article.

35. (currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 34, ~~where~~ wherein the source rank is determined by:

adding, by the processor, a plurality of metric values for the at least one on-line news article to produce a total value, and

obtaining, by the processor, the source rank by dividing the total value by a quantity of metric values in the plurality of metric values.

36. (currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 34, ~~where~~ wherein the source rank is determined by:

determining, by the processor, for each metric value in a plurality of metric values for the at least one on-line news article, a percentile score relative to a highest value for that metric, and

adding, by the processor, the percentile scores to obtain the source rank.

37. (currently amended) The computer-readable memory device of claim 10 ~~where~~ wherein the objects include links to on-line news articles.

38. (currently amended) The computer-readable memory device of claim 10 ~~where~~ ~~wherein~~ the identifying a source includes:
identifying the source based at least in part on a uniform resource locator (URL) associated with the link.

39. (currently amended) The server of claim 27, ~~where~~ ~~wherein~~ the processor is further configured to:
determine a plurality of metric values for the news source,
multiply each metric value in the plurality of metric values by a factor to create a plurality of adjusted metric values, and
add the plurality of adjusted metric values to obtain the quality value.

40. (currently amended) The server of claim 27, ~~where~~ ~~wherein~~ the processor is further configured to:
determine a plurality of metric values for the news source,
normalize each metric value in the plurality of metric values, and
add the plurality of normalized metric values to obtain the quality value.

41. (currently amended) The computer-readable memory device of claim 28 ~~where~~ ~~wherein~~ the determining includes:
determining a plurality of metric values for the source.

42. (currently amended) The method of claim 41 where ~~wherein~~ the generating includes:

 multiplying, by the processor, each metric value in the plurality of metric values by a factor to create a plurality of adjusted metric values, and

 adding, by the processor, the plurality of adjusted metric values to obtain the quality value.

43. (currently amended) The method of claim 41 where ~~wherein~~ the generating includes:

 normalizing, by the processor, each metric value in the plurality of metric values, and

 adding, by the processor, the plurality of normalized metric values to obtain the quality value.